

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: New Jersey	
COUNTY: Essex	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER NOV 3 1972	DATE

1. NAME	
COMMON: St. Patrick's Pro Cathedral (R.C.)	
AND/OR HISTORIC: St. Patrick's Church or St. Patrick's Cathedral	

2. LOCATION			
STREET AND NUMBER: Washington St. & Central Avenue			
CITY OR TOWN: Newark			
STATE New Jersey	CODE 34	COUNTY: Essex	CODE 013

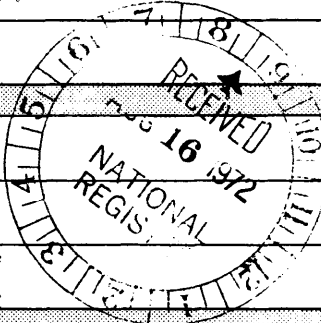
3. CLASSIFICATION			
CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
☐ District ☒ Building ☐ Site ☐ Structure ☐ Object	☐ Public ☒ Private ☐ Both	Public Acquisition: ☐ In Process ☐ Being Considered	☒ Occupied ☐ Unoccupied ☐ Preservation work in progress Yes: ☒ Restricted ☐ Unrestricted ☐ No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
☐ Agricultural ☐ Commercial ☐ Educational ☐ Entertainment	☐ Government ☐ Industrial ☐ Military ☐ Museum	☐ Park ☐ Private Residence ☒ Religious ☐ Scientific	☐ Transportation ☐ Other (Specify) ☐ Comments

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY			
OWNER'S NAME: St. Patrick's Pro Cathedral (R.C.)			
STREET AND NUMBER: Washington St. and Central Avenue			
CITY OR TOWN: Newark	STATE: New Jersey	CODE 34	

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION			
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: Essex County Hall of Records			
STREET AND NUMBER: High Street			
CITY OR TOWN: Newark	STATE: New Jersey	CODE 34	

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS			
TITLE OF SURVEY: New Jersey Historic Sites Inventory			
DATE OF SURVEY: ☐ Federal ☒ State ☐ County ☐ Local			
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: Historic Sites Office			
STREET AND NUMBER: Box 1420			
CITY OR TOWN: Trenton	STATE: New Jersey	CODE 34	

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



2418
N 456240

STATE: New Jersey	COUNTY: Essex	ENTRY NUMBER NOV 3 1972	DATE
-----------------------------	-------------------------	-----------------------------------	------

FOR NPS USE ONLY

7. Description

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	☒ Excellent	☐ Good	☐ Fair	☐ Deteriorated	☐ Ruins	☐ Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	☐ Altered	☒ Unaltered			☐ Moved	☒ Original Site
DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE						
Spire height: 150' approximately, as new stainless steel cross added 1946; sharp spire of oxidized green copper over wood frame; original church (remaining) before additions: length 130', width 70'; height of nave interior vault 64' (60'-another source). Kenneth Schnall (biblio.) describes the Pro-Cathedral (excerpts): "...The building is constructed of red brick on an uncut stone foundation." Brownstone, including trim. The many layers of paint covering the exterior from sometime in the latter 1800's were removed in the renovation compl. c. centennial year 1950 restoring the original plain red brick. It is a simplification of both French and English Gothic styles and is cruciform in shape without transepts. A tall central tower with a late English Gothic spire reaches from a point in front of the facade to a point just behind the nave peak. The central tower is supported on its corners by long diagonal buttresses with heavy weather plates. In the interior brick buttressing runs through vestibule walls and is extended into the rear pews. The tower is further strengthened at its rear corners by peaked buttressing in nave roof. The central tower's long sides are broken by windows and a central door. Upper windows below the peak of the tower in the belfry are divided into three by thick mullions. They are filled with a deep tracery at the point and are backed with wide lovers. Below this window in a center expanse of open wall is a small round window with three round trefoil openings. A single large window over the door is as wide as the "... door..." and has heavy tracery with long mullions." "The pointed central door is set well within the tower wall. It provides the greatest area of emphasis in the lower part of the facade and is capped with a molding of stone and wood that acts as a dripstone. Doors and windows in the front of the side towers are similar in design to those in the central tower, while those at the sides of the tower are smaller." "The side towers are in front of the facade in line with the central tower. They form the corners of the building at the end of the side aisles. This recession of the front walls behind the central and side towers produces an interplay of shadow across the facade. The interior of the side towers are small side vestibules on the ground floor and an organ loft on the second floor." "The roof of the side aisles has little pitch and can hardly be seen from the street. The upper nave walls are like the lower wall but have smaller windows." At the northwest corner, a picturesque old addition, apparently not in the original (but, according to Schnall - on insurance maps by 1868 - as was the chapel, see below) - plan, was the square additional tower erected at the right rear flanking the Central Ave. side. This tower - perhaps an additional bell tower- but obscure as to purpose and use, has, as its northwest corner, a stair turret containing a spiral staircase --- with the top of the turret capped with a conical roof and weathervane rising perhaps 20 feet above the rest of this tower. By the 1850's, there were in Newark at least 2 other edifices (both by John Welch) with spiral staircases in stair turrets in one corner of towers: High Street Pres. Ch. (now St. James A.M.E.), and the Orphan Asylum (now Eberhardt Hall, NCE), this latter also on High St. and 2-3 blocks from St. Patick's which, like it, is in red brick & brownstone.						
Congressional Representation Honorable Clifford P. Case, U. S. Senator Honorable Harrison A. Williams, U.S. Senator Honorable Peter W. Rodino, Congressman, 10th Congressional District						

S E E N S T R U C T I O N S



8. Significance

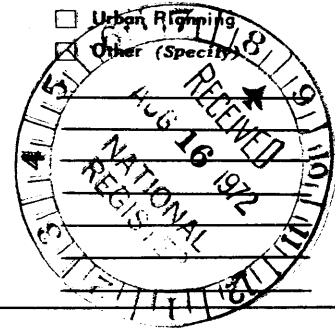
PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- ☐ Pre-Columbian ☐ 16th Century ☐ 18th Century ☒ 20th Century
☐ 15th Century ☐ 17th Century ☒ 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATES (If Applicable and Known) built 1846-48-50; Chapel c. 1860; cons. & renov. 1875; renov. compl. 1950

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | |
|--|--------------------------------------|---|
| ☐ Aboriginal | ☐ Education | ☐ Political |
| ☐ Prehistoric | ☐ Engineering | ☒ Religion/Philosophy |
| ☐ Historic | ☐ Industry | ☐ Science |
| ☐ Agriculture | ☐ Invention | ☒ Sculpture |
| ☒ Architecture | ☐ Landscape | ☒ Social/Humanitarian |
| ☒ Art | ☐ Literature | ☐ Theater |
| ☐ Commerce | ☐ Military | ☐ Transportation |
| ☐ Communications | ☐ Music | |
| ☐ Conservation | | |



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Famous archit. For 101 years - November 1, 1853 - until the 1954 completion of the great Sacred Heart Cathedral, St. Patrick's was the official Cathedral (Pro-Cathedral) of the Newark Archdiocese (orig. Diocese) - Orig. incl. all of N.J. & still 5th in U.S. in Catholic population. Erected on a prominent Downtown Newark corner beginning 1846, - work suspended, resumed, cornerstone laid Sept. 17, 1848, dedicated Mar. 10, 1850 - both occasions by Bishop Hughes of N.Y. Land holdings adjacent secured and chapel and northwest tower added c. 1860 under 2nd Pastor, Rev. Bernard McQuaid who left 1868 upon election as Bishop of Rochester. First Pastor, Rev. Louis D. Senez, left in 1853 - went to Cincinnati cathedral 1857. Msgr. George H. Doane (statue of on Broad St.), 3rd Pastor, was Catholic convert son of noted Episcopal Bishop of New Jersey, ordained in St. Patrick's 1857, assigned there, became in charge 1868 for over 30 years, had the renovated cathedral (incl. new windows, organ, etc.) consecrated Mar. 17, 1875 - St. Patrick's Day. Rev. James Roosevelt Bayley (secy. to N.Y. Bishop Hughes - above) was installed here as First Catholic Bishop of Newark, Nov. 1, 1853. Architecturally, it is an outstanding example of Early Gothic Revival. The Pro-Cathedral is exquisite in appearance, involving the work of master architects, and is nicely set in landscaping and harmonious parish buildings.

There may be confusion over the original architect; this compiler, based upon the following info., believes both Father Patrick Moran and Patrick C. Keely deserve much credit for the original structure. Keely was the most prolific of Catholic architects, variously credited with 500-1,000 churches and major cathedrals including at least 20 cathedrals listed (by Kervick, bibli.) from Halifax to Natchez. Father Moran was 33 years pastor of older, nearby St. John's Church which he added to architecturally at various intervals including much of his own artistic handiwork. Moran also designed old (demol.) St. Peter's, Belleville and is credited with plaster ornamentation in St. Patrick's which edifice an account says he carried up to the clerestory. A builder engaged left the city c. 1846-47 causing suspension of work for a year or more. Keely, who did subsequent St. Mary's in Newark, 1857 and huge St. James, 1866, is attributed as architect of St. Patrick's - p. 33 Kervick biog. of Keely (biblio.), and an old lithograph of St. Patrick's in the Newark Main Lib.: "Print by Nagel & Weingaertner, N.Y." - is also printed "P.C. Keely Arch." - "1850" and Huber Lith". Both Keely and Moran, an archit. scholar, knew European prototypes.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Flynn: Centennial Booklet The Catholic Church in New Jersey.
 Kervick: Patrick C. Keely Architect
 "Newark Daily Advertiser" 3/11/1850
 "Newark Morning Eagle" 9/19/1848
 Schnall: A Survey of Ecclesiastical Architecture Built in Newark from 1810-1865.
 Shaw: History of Essex County, New Jersey.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

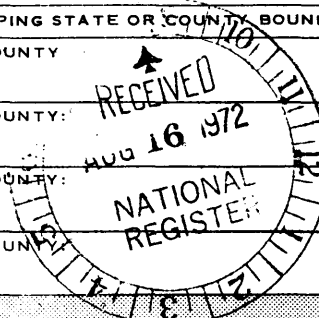
LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY				O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES			
CORNER	LATITUDE				LONGITUDE			
	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds		Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	
NW	°	'	"		°	'	"	
NE	°	'	"	°	'	"		
SE	°	'	"	°	'	"		
SW	°	'	"	°	'	"		

LATITUDE			LONGITUDE		
Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
40°	44'	31"	74°	10'	21"

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY:

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE



11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:

Donald W. Geyer, licensed "professional planner" & architectural historian

ORGANIZATION

DATE

10/71

STREET AND NUMBER:

351 Broad St.

CITY OR TOWN:

Newark

STATE

New Jersey

CODE

34

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National ☐ State ☐ Local ☒

Name

Richard J. Sullivan

Title

Commissioner, Department of Environmental Protection

Date

August 7, 1972

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Robert M. Utley
 Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date

11/3/72

ATTEST:

William H. Hunt
 Keeper of The National Register

Date

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet) 1

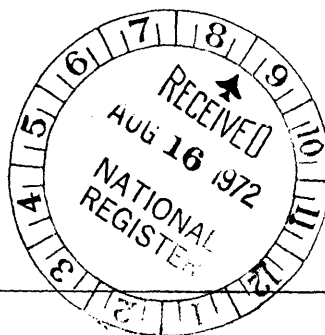
STATE New Jersey	
COUNTY Essex	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER NOV 5	DATE 1972

(Number all entries)

7. Description (Cont'd)
St. Patrick's Cathedral
Essex County 013
New Jersey 34

The grounds around the harmonious church and parish buildings are nicely landscaped, a wrought iron fence encloses the yards. South of the church is a particularly attractive yard which becomes a lovely garden surrounding an outdoor shrine set well back from Washington St. continuing to cite Schnall: "On the southwest corner of the building" behind garden & shrine "is a small brick lady chapel." -attached perpendicular to the Pro-Cathedral. "This small building opens into the last bay in the south aisle and has a small buttresses apse which is presently used for a baptistry. The chapel is supported on its corners and side wall by short turrets with conical caps. The interior of the turrets serve as confessionals. Windows in the chapel's side walls take up most of the room between the side wall turrets and are filled with an alternating cusped tracery."

"The rear apse wall is as high as the nave bays and is supported by a buttressing similar to those in the side walls. It may be noted, however, that the sacristry" added? "has a low roof and is behind the apse providing it with support. The main apse is as wide as the nave and is contained within a wide arch that extends from the floor to the point of the ceiling and is filled with heavily carved filigree. The rear wall of the apse is round..." The interior is lavish both in its elaborate structure, falsework of plaster vaulting, and multi-colored decor and statuary - probably resulting from many additions to the original; much of Schnall's description is omitted: "Side altars are three-sided niches with thick ribbed ceilings. The organ loft" - rear - "extends far into the nave and is supported on stone pillars. It receives added support from the footings of the tower which project into the pews in rear of the nave. Heavy organ pipes cover the front windows of the church." "Plaster ceiling ribs in the nave are similar to the English decorative vaulting. They break the length of the nave ceiling into "stellar" triangular shapes, but do not really support any weight." "The imitation vaulting locks the ceiling onto engaged columns on the nave wall. These extend down to the slender English style clustered piers which open the nave walls into wide bays." "The piers are of stone and have floriated gilt capital." "All points of intersection in the nave ceiling are filled with small gilt bosses." "The side aisle roof is also vaulted with imitation plaster ribbing that engages corbels on the side walls. These side aisles are short and narrow but high, and run from entrances in the vestibule to the front side altars in the chancel." The nave is well lit by windows.



NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet) 2

STATE New Jersey	
COUNTY Essex	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
NOV 3	1972

(Number all entries)

8. Significance (Cont.)
St. Patrick's Cathedral
Essex County 013
New Jersey 34

Father Moran very likely was the "Moran" referred-to - p. 9-10, Kervick biog. citing a Keely letter of Feb. 24, 1849, regarding Keely's Albany Cathedral to the Rt. Rev. Bishop McClusky (America's first Cardinal), Bishop McClusky (America's first Cardinal), Bishop of Albany: "I have had many large money dealings with the following gentlemen: Rev. Mr. Malone, Moran, Rev. Mr. Carter, and Fitton, Mr. Maxwell and Mr. McKein." On page 6, "For a number of years, Keely worked at his trade without attracting much attention. The Rector of the Seminary at Lafargeville employed him to design an altar and later for the same priest he did some small work in Newark". (Lafargeville - presumably Upstate N.Y., - Newark - presumably N.J., "small work" maybe St. Patrick's and/or maybe even old St. John's --- these references almost certainly the 1840's). p. 20 (Kervick) - re Keely: ".... since the days he was working in obscurity in the Diocese of Newark".

Kervick's Keely biog. furnishes 2 addit. comparative clues: the picture, p.40 "Church of St. Peter and St. Paul, Brooklyn, Keely's first church" --- Williamsburgh, 1846, (demol.), not as tall as St. Patrick's, but similar in spirit and materials - ie. "Many of these were of brick with stone trimmings"; also p.46 - sketch, cathedral, Charleston, S.C. - undated - presumably an earlier design than the one Keely used for his 1890 St. Finbar's Cathedral in Charleston. The similarities also include handling of towers, buttressing, pinnacles and finials.

The 1875 renovation was by noted architect Jeremiah O'Rourke of Newark, whose masterpiece among his many great churches in the Newark area was the successor Cathedral of the Sacred Heart of which he was the original architect.

St. Patrick's, despite additions and renovations, remains very faithful, however, to the original design of 1850 completion, at least as to the exterior.

Regarding social services and the diverse races of Newark, Msgr. Doane (above) is credited during his several decades at St. Patrick's with inspiring new churches, hospitals, schools, orphanages and academic facilities. Flynn (biblio.) said in these regards: "Apart from all else, St. Michael's Hospital is a practical illustration of his activity. A singular incident in connection with its beginning in this remarkable fact: The first time that white and colored men paraded together the public streets of the United States was at the laying of its cornerstone. This was a most fitting prelude, since the hospital recognizes neither nor creed. It lavishes it attentive care upon every unfortunate, irrespective of color, creed or condition."





NPS Number 11/3/72

Title: St. Patrick's Pro-Cathedral

1683

Loc. Essex, New Jersey

frontal facade, from east

①

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

front view from e.

SUBJECT: St. Patrick's Pro-Cathedral

LOCALITY: Newark, N.J.

(R.C.)

SOURCE: D.W. Geyer

(intact - except
doorway detail changed)

1971